



# Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms are very prevalent during the summer months in Indiana. They can produce large hail, flash floods, heavy rain, lightning, strong winds, and tornados. Thunderstorms can last only a few minutes, but have the strength and power to cause a great amount of damage.



## Things to Know:

**Thunderstorm Watch:** Conditions are favorable for thunderstorm to appear.

**Thunderstorm Warning:** A thunderstorm is occurring or about to occur in your area.

## Before a Thunderstorm:

- Keep trees trimmed to avoid falling onto your house, cars, or even yourself.
- If hail or strong winds are reported park your vehicle under a shelter, if possible, to avoid hail and debris damage.

## During a Thunderstorm:

- If a thunderstorm is coming postpone or cancel outdoor activity.
- Do NOT go near tall trees or any other tall objects.
- Seek shelter inside a building or in a hardtop vehicle, but don't touch any of the metal inside.
- Do NOT use the telephone. Stay away from other electronic devices, bare metal, and water.
- Do NOT go near downed power lines.
- Keep your eye on the sky, and listen to weather reports on the radio or TV.
- If caught out in the middle of a large body of water, return to shore as soon as possible. Get off the water immediately!
- When caught in the middle of an open field: If walking with others, stay a minimum of 10 feet apart, keep low and move quickly to seek shelter. If there is no shelter, lay in a ditch or get to the lowest place around.



For more information on thunderstorm preparedness, visit the IDHS website at: [www.in.gov/dhs](http://www.in.gov/dhs).